(c) The Government has constituted a "National Investment Fund" (NIF) in 2005-06, into which the proceeds from disinvestment of Government equity in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) would be channelised. 75% of the annual income of NIF will be used to finance selected social sector schemes, which promote education, health and employment. The residual 25% of the annual income of NIF will be used to meet the capital investment requirements of profitable and revivable CPSEs that yield adequate returns, in order to enlarge their capital base to finance expansion/diversification. There has been no accrual to NIF so far.

Increase in Dearness Relief to Pensioners

3223. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the orders issued by the Department of Pension for increase in dearness relief to pensioners from time to time do not reach branches of the Public Sector Banks disbursing pensions for months together thereby causing unnecessary delay in the disbursement of additional relief to the pensioners; and

(b) if so, what procedure is being followed for the purpose and what steps are contemplated to ensure that the relevant orders reach all the concerned branches within a week of their issue through internet and fax or other expeditious means?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare, Government of India sends a copy of each notification regarding revision in dearness relief to Central Government Pensioners/Family Pensioners to all heads of pension disbursing banks. The banks, in turn, circulate the notification to their pension disbursing branches. The notification is also forwarded by the Government to Indian Banks' Association (IBA), which ensures its wide publicity through advertisements in leading Hindi, English and major regional language newspapers. The details of notification are also made available at the websites of IBA and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension, for access by individual banks/branches and pensioners.